

Quid Novi

Vol. XII, No.11

McGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW
UNIVERSITE MCGILL FACULTE DE DROIT

November 25, 1991
le 25 novembre 1991

NOTRE COMMISSION B.B.

by Francis Harvey, BCL II

La commission Laurendeau-Dunton était chargée de rendre compte du bilinguisme et du bi-culturalisme au Canada vers la fin des années soixante, d'où lui vient le nom de commission B.B. Il y a maintenant à la faculté de droit de McGill un comité qui doit étudier les questions du bilinguisme et du bi-systémisme juridique dans notre école, on pourrait aussi l'appeler le comité B.B. Dans les deux cas, un tel exercice rend compte d'un certain malaise et du désir de le résoudre en donnant l'occasion aux principaux intéressés de se prononcer sur la question, sans leur laisser le dernier mot. Mais espérons que c'est là que s'arrêteront les parallèles et que le rapport de notre

comité B.B. ne subira pas le même sort que celui de la commission Laurendeau-Dunton, soit celui d'être royalement ignoré par les détenteurs du pouvoir.

Le sujet de la langue est, au Canada, un sujet qui nous laisse bien souvent la bouche pâteuse tellement en parler nous oblige à s'expliquer longtemps. Les habitants du Québec se définissent culturellement par rapport à la langue. Les québécois et les canadiens-français du Québec sont probablement ceux qui ont exploités ce thème le plus à fond et parfois même à outrance. Il n'y a pas lieu de rentrer dans la question des réalisations législatives de cette volonté de préservation de la langue française comme bastion de la culture et de ses

conséquences. Les canadiens-anglais du Québec, peut-être en réaction à ce nationalisme linguistique, ou pour des raisons qui leur sont propres se reconnaissent entre eux aussi par la langue qu'ils parlent. La commission Laurendeau-Dunton avait à réconcilier ces deux langues et ces deux cultures et à proposer comment elles pouvaient continuer à vivre ensemble.

Le problème est différent à la faculté de droit, car la langue d'enseignement ne doit pas être considérée comme une extension culturelle ou comme l'ensemble d'une culture, mais comme un outil de travail et un moyen de parfaire nos connaissances juridiques et autres. Il est dangereux de comptabiliser le

Suite, p.7

AN INTERVIEW WITH DAVID DUKE

by Andreas Sautter (LLB II), a sometime political correspondent for the *Quid Novi*.

Q. What is your favourite colour?

A. White.

Q. What is your favourite costume?

A. Ghost with a pointy white hat.

Q. Why the point?

A. Did you say, "What's the point"?

Q. No, why the point? What's the point

of the point?

A. Pun intended?

Q. No. But that's not the point.

A. What is the point?

Q. (peevd) Drop it. We were talking of your favourite things. What is your favourite food?

A. Steak.

Cont'd on p.3

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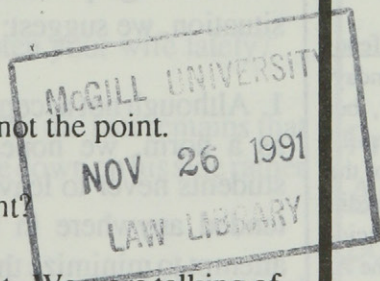
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ANNOUNCEMENTS/ ANNONCES

Careers Day Committee - a special thanks to Martine Cohen, Nancy Girard, Sophie Perreault, Neil Stoopler and Rhonda Yarin for doing a super job organizing the information session on job opportunities "beyond" Montreal. Nous aimerions aussi remercier Jonathan Burnham, Alexandra Gillespie, Nathalie Goldin, Pierre Larouche, Richard Sanders et Pierre-George Roy d'avoir partagé leurs expériences. Notez que la journée des carrières aura lieu le 17 janvier.

Christmas/Chanukah Charity Drive - Please help to support local charities this holiday season by donating non-perishable foods to the Faculty Holiday Basket Drive. Drop off your cans all week at the L.S.A. office, or in the pit on Wednesday from 12-2 p.m. This is an easy and effective way to make someone's Christmas/Chanukah a happy event - so please be generous!!

L.S.A. Phone Book - here are the final phone book corrections for this year. Please replace the phone numbers in your phone book with the following numbers:

LLB I

Roger Stewart 274-6075
Randy Hahn 989-7702

BCL I

Jocelyn Barrett 989-9401

BCL II

Nick Katerinakakis 286-5177
Marc Petrick 286-5177

BCL III

Karen Michetti 844-2603

Legal Issues in Medical Practice Tenth Lecture - «The Corporation Professionnelle des Médecins and Disciplinary Proceedings». The lecture will be held on Wednesday 27th at 19h30-21h30 in the Mout Court.

COIN DES SPORTS CORNER - Public Offenders are very proud of their 7-0 victory last Sunday, not because the other team played poorly, but because the Offenders showed 7 times their skill! Although it was Veronica M's first shut out of the season, the girls really deserve most of the credit. Goals were by Lucie P. (she only took two, deciding to leave some for the other players), Helene A. (2), Mitch D. (1) and alumni Alison T. (2). Malum in Se, here we come!!!!

THEFT IN THE LIBRARY

Depuis la rentrée des voleurs (ou voleuses) et des vandales sont à l'oeuvre dans la Faculté. En effet, pendant la rédaction du mémoire en vue des plaidoiries de deuxième année, au moins un volume du Canadian Abridgment s'est vu amputé des pages pertinentes relatives à l'intoxication. Depuis, une personne s'est fait voler à la bibliothèque, toutes ses notes et résumés du cours «Security on Immoveables». De plus, il manque des feuilles à un ouvrage de doctrine mis de côté à la réserve pour le cours «Evidence». Et, enfin, des recueils du cours «Evidence» ont aussi disparu, ces derniers jours. Compte tenu des sujets de mémoires et des cours, il semble que le problème soit circonscrit à la classe BCL II. Cependant, les faits des vols et du vandalisme à la bibliothèque concernent toute la faculté, étudiant(e)s et professeur(e)s.

Such conduct is dishonest, cowardly and betrays scorn for others. These acts are made even more deplorable by the fact that they are committed by fellow law students. McGill has, in recent years, fostered a law faculty marked by an atmosphere of friendly, non-competitive co-operation between students. These recent events represent an unfortunate throw-back to an earlier era where the public stereotype of the cut-throat law school image prevails. In light of this situation, we suggest:

1. Although not accepting this behaviour as a norm, we nonetheless encourage students never to leave their notes unattended anywhere in the Faculty in an attempt to minimize the opportunities for future occurrences.
2. Que les professeur(e)s se tiennent prêt(e)s à user de leur autorité morale sur une classe pour trouver des volontaires qui aideraient la victime (si elle le désire)

à se reconstituer un cahier de notes de cours et de résumés. Si l'altruisme se fait rare, nous osons supposer qu'il n'a pas complètement disparu de la planète, et, partant, du coeur de quelques étudiant(e)s de la faculté.

Si l'auteur(e) du délit n'est pas découvert(e), la menace de se voir déposséder de son travail, et de voir le patrimoine de la bibliothèque se détériorer, va continuer de planer. À ce sujet, il va sans dire qu'il est dans l'intérêt de tous que le/les coupables soient démasqué(e)s. Cependant il ne s'agit pas d'organiser pur autant une campagne de délation à l'intérieur de la faculté. En clair, cela veut dire qu'en l'absence de preuves, on doit s'abstenir d'émettre des suppositions sur l'identité présumée du/ de la coupable. Formulées à voix haute ou à voix basse, des accusations dénuées de fondement peuvent empoisonner les rapports entre les étudiant(e)s dans la faculté. Aussi, quelle que soit notre inimitié envers une personne ou un groupe de personnes, il convient d'avoir la décence de ne pas utiliser ces faits pour assouvir nos rancunes personnelles.

This is a problem which affects and implicates us all. The solution will ultimately be found in the fostering of a greater sense of community; not in destroying what bonds we already share. Nous espérons que cette lettre sensibilisera l'opinion publique sur cette question, sans pour autant déclencher une guerre ... civile, ou, en d'autres termes, un conflit interne.

Hélène Piquet, Chantal Chevalier, Lise Rochette, Marc Neremberg, Catherine Newcombe, Alexandra Leblanc, Rosemarie Graf, Myriam Brûlot and Douglas Holliston.

David Duke
Cont'd from p.1

Q. What is your favourite element?

A. Fire. It burns stakes. Pun intended.

Q. (shaking head) No, no. Element as in atomic table. Chemical substance.

A. Oh. Sodium chloride. It's white, you know.

Q. (exasperated) Let's try politics. Favourite political party.

A. Neo-naz.... er....Republican.

Q. Favourite political figure.

A. Adol....George....Sorry. Senator Joe McCarthy.

Q. What in particular do you admire about Senator McCarthy?

A. His ideological purity.

Q. I understand you came to Canada at one stage to help with the domestic chapter of the KKK.

A. That is correct.

Q. Were you succesful?

A. Not really. Kurds and Kangaroos are rather scarce in Canada.

Q. Kurds and Kangaroos?

A. Just joking. Relax.

Q. But Canada is spelt with a «C».

A. I spelt Klan with a K didn't I?

Q. That's not the point.

A. (wryly) At it again?

Q. What's it like to be Grand Wizard?

A. Magical.

Q. Do you perform?

A. Only in political elections.

Q. What is your favourite trick?

A. Getting people to vote for me despite my bigotry and racism.

Q. But you lost the election.

A. Only technically.

Q. Please explain.

A. I got 53% of the white vote. If you don't count the black vote, I would have won. It's the black vote that killed me.

Q. (under breath) The irony.

A. Pardon me?

Q. Could you give an estimate of the percentage of the black vote you think you may have received?

A. Not accurately.

Q. Your successful opponent, Edwin Edwards, is rumoured to have ties with organized crime.

A. Yes, we make quite a pair.

Q. Do you think his victory is a statement that America prefers criminals to racists?

A. Have you beaten your wife lately?

Q. Point taken. But the fact remains that big business came down on his side rather than yours.

A. Marx put ideology ahead of practical considerations too.

Q. Are you saying you lost because of your Marxist approach to politics?

A. I won't tolerate being called a communist. Let's get one thing perfectly clear: I am a supremacist.

Q. Understood, Mr. Duke. Would you attribute your supremacist leanings to your aristocratic-sounding surname in any way? I mean, are the two connected?

A. Quite so. My original last name was Luther. That just didn't sell well with the Klan. Duke fit the bill much better.

Q. Some final questions. Is it true you asked the rap group Public Enemy to compose a theme song for your campaign?

A. (shrugging shoulders) I thought it would be a good publicity stunt.

Q. There are runmours you will be publishing an autobiographical account of your political activities entitled "White like me".

A. I'm still negotiating the offer.

Q. Will you run for president?

A. In America, anything is possible.

Q. Thank you very much for your time.

A. My pleasure.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Professor Stevens in Business Associations on corporate opportunities:

«The only thing we can call it is a "thing"»

SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS.

by Andrew Deere, LLB III

Freedom of speech is of course a wonderful thing. Some fools say it's the primary democratic right, more primary than even the right to vote: how, they say, can free elections work unless we can have the freedom to listen to all the opinions out there and then vote accordingly? I suppose that's why the Americans (and we know all about them) put this right as number one in their Bill. Of course, we, in Quebec, take this right a little less seriously. We know there are more important things. Quebec, you see, has found the right answer: unanimity.

So when something gets in the way of this wonderful unanimity you pass a little law, and «poof», problem solved and we're back on track. Of course, sometimes our little laws don't work. We have jurisdictional problems: Quebec's little laws don't seem to have any effect beyond Quebec's inviolable, natural borders. So what to do? «No problem» say our minders of unanimity, we can't do much about it out there, but we can minimize the damage «chez nous». Since our little laws won't work, we use other tools,

say, calumny.

So let's take a few examples to see how this wonderful doctrine works. Suppose a Jewish-Anglophone Quebecer (kind of oxymoronic isn't it) says something in New York that we don't like. Well, first we have to apply the unanimity test. Does everyone in Quebec agree? Since we can't check everyone, we'll take a poll. Does the P.Q. agree (they are after all the Parti Québécois)? Nope. Does superbrain in the Bunker agree? Nope, he doesn't agree. Does the guy who wrote the song we all sing at birthdays agree? Uh-uh, he does not. Lastly, does the columnist of La Presse agree? No again. Well, that's everybody and at 4-0 we have our unanimity. The Jewish guy has broken our primary rule, so now it is open season, let's hear it. «Misrepresentation, prejudicial, racist, absurd.» And the calumny just keeps on flowing.

O.K. so we couldn't fault the Jewish guy on facts: we could only use basic calumny. But hey, there are these Indian guys shouting about something we all agree is good (Hydro-Quebec is after all one of the powerhouses of the New

Quebec, and we all agree that that's good). And hey, we might be able to get them on a few facts. So again, unanimity check (repeat same steps as for Jewish guy). Check completed, let's put on some outrage.

Now let's see if this works in the Faculty of Law. Guy with a Greek last name writes about the «big decision» about half the school has to face real soon. Guy forgets to praise Quebec's showing in the midget hockey finals and that the tuba player in the MSO got a good write up in the Wiener Zeitung. Instead he said some bad things about Quebec. Quick, no time for unanimity check (*Quid* deadline's Monday), but we are sure all our minders would agree. «Deplorable bad faith». Whew, got some good calumny off in time.

Way to go Pierre! I entirely agree. Who is this guy to even imply that Quebec is not the most wonderful bloody place on the globe? Since I might want to stay in this distinct society, I want to be distinct too, so I'll agree with everyone else.



Quid Novi is published weekly by students at the Faculty of Law of McGill University, 3644 Peel Street, Montreal, H3A 1W9. Production is made possible by support of the Dean's office and by direct funding from the students. Les opinions exprimées sont propres à l'auteur. Toute contribution n'est publiée qu'à la discrétion du comité de

rédaction et doit indiquer l'auteur ou son origine.

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Pour un véritable échange d'idées

par Pierre Soulard, BCL II

Nous concluions récemment une opinion concernant un article publié dans le Quid Novi par l'idée suivante: si l'intention de l'auteur est d'apporter un commentaire humoristique, rions en coeur et passons à autre chose; par contre, si ses prétentions s'avèrent sérieuses, nous ne les partageons pas. À la lumière de la réplique écrite par notre collègue, il ne semble pas avoir lu notre article jusqu'à la fin.

Nous passons délibérément sous silence les attaques personnelles et les commentaires «humoristiques» lancés par notre confrère pour nous concentrer sur ce qui semble être le vif de son sujet, soit la place de l'idéologie et des convictions dans un débat d'idées. Dans la perspective de l'auteur, notre désir de répondre à ses écrits relève seulement d'un désir de déformer la réalité pour confirmer nos

opinions. Par conséquent, nous n'avons pas le droit d'exprimer nos vues dans un contexte «humoristique» puisque, ce faisant, nous déformons la réalité, et ce d'une façon malicieuse. Nous perdons de toute façon car, comme nous ne partageons pas son opinion, nous ne sommes pas digne de crédibilité et surtout inapte à remettre en question les opinions de notre collègue.

Tout cela laisse fort peu de place à l'échange des idées. Malheureusement, aucune société ne profite du développement, en son sein, de l'unanimité. Le Québec ne fait certes pas exception à la règle et il ne nous semble pas raisonnable d'affirmer le contraire, et ce surtout si l'on considère les grands débats de société ayant secoué cette province depuis les années soixante. Que l'on pense à la réforme de l'éducation, à l'assurance-maladie, à l'assurance-auto-

mobile et à des dizaines d'autres mesures, toutes partageant un point commun: elles sont le fruit d'une synergie entre des prémisses de départ différentes. Malgré ces divergences, un potentiel créateur a su émerger du choc des idées et une solution acceptable à toutes les parties fut trouvée.

En définitive, tous ont à gagner à tester leur point de vue et à les affirmer dans un contexte où ils pourront être analysés et décortiqués par d'autres personnes. Dans cette perspective, il demeure malheureux que notre collègue choisisse de ne pas considérer le Quid Novi comme un véhicule adéquat pour ses convictions. Il y perd en se privant d'un forum souple et accessible, et nous y perdons en ne pouvant plus profiter des idées d'un collègue.

MERCI THANK YOU

Merci à tous ceux et celles qui ont contribué de leur temps et de leur talent au Quid Novi pendant la première session. À tous nos autres lecteurs, qu'attendez-vous pour nous écrire?

We'd like to thank all of the following people who contributed their time and their talent to the Quid Novi during the first semester. To all of our other readers, what are you waiting for?

David Abitbol, Juli Abouchar, Maaïke de Bie, Janet Bolton, Arnold Bornstein, René Brewer, Brian Cohen, Philippe Collard, Andrew Deere, Brian Fell, Joshua Fireman, Jean-Philippe Gervais, Alexandra Gillespie, Nancy Girard, Nathalie Goldin, Denis Guénette, Nina Hall, Francis Harvey, Bryan Haynes, Gregory Hood, Hanson Hosein, Deborah Johnston, Nick Katerinakis, Nile

Kaya, Patricia Kosseim, Tom Likambale, Stephen Lloyd, Kevin MacNeill, David Mesman, Robert Michelin, Anne-Marie Mignault, Paul Moen, Greg Moore, Perry Narancic, Angelo Noce, Alain Olivier, Andres Sautter, Christopher Sherrin, Jay Sinha, Pierre Soulard, Erica Stone, Corina Stonebanks, Caroline Thomassin, Nan Wang, Jordan Waxman, Moray Welch, Michael Wilhelmson

40 YEARS IN THE DESERT, AGAIN

by David Abitol, BCL II

The November 11, 1991 edition of the *Quid Novi* contained an interesting article by Alain Olivier, titled «Après 40 ans dans le desert...», dealing with the peace conference in Madrid and the situation in the Middle East in general. While my confrère did an admirable job of trying to present a balanced view of the situation, I am nonetheless driven to clarify and add to certain points that were made in the article.

One of the fundamental weaknesses of the conference was that the motivation of most of the participants was not a sincere desire to achieve peaceful solution to the irrational hatred and animosity that have plagued the region. Rather it merely reflected the changing political realities of the world. With the Soviet Union threatening to implode from the accumulated nationalist and economic pressures built up by decades of communist rule, the traditional bi-polar power structure that influenced the course of events in the Middle East is no longer in play. America's emergence as the sole dominant foreign power in the Middle East is now a fact. The token participation of countries like Syria is a reflection of this fact and also a desire by ex-client states of the Soviet Union to find a new source of much-needed economic and military support, in the form of American foreign aid.

Furthermore, assuming my premise is correct, Arab participation in a peace conference that is not motivated by a sincere desire to achieve peace can nonetheless produce positive international political dividends. The ultimate failure of the peace conference can be blamed on Israeli intransigence, i.e. as my confrère erroneously put it, a failure by the Israelis to abide by the Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. He implies that these resolutions stand for the proposition that Israel must withdraw from **all** territories

occupied by it in the aftermath of the Six-Day War, prior to the conclusion of a successful peace treaty. What, in fact, 242 and 338 stand for is that this be done in the context of a recognition by the Arabs of the State of Israel **and** the conclusion of a peace treaty between all the combatants. Until then, Israel can and must maintain its defensive position (the result after all of Arab aggression) and retain control of the areas in contention.

His use of article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter can also be criticized. While this article stands for the proposition that «aggressive» use of a state's military force against another state, and annexation as means of enlarging territory, is prohibited, use of this article to describe territories conquered by Israel as a result of the Six-Day War is largely fallacious.

Describing Israel as the «aggressor» in 1967 ignores several historical facts: the use of the Gaza Strip by Nasser to launch attacks against Israel's civilian population by Egyptian-trained «Fedayeen» guerillas; Nasser's forceful eviction of U.N. peacekeeping troops in the Sinai; Nasser's illegal closing of the Straits of Tiran to Israel shipping; Syria's use of the Golan Heights to rain a steady stream of artillery shells on agricultural settlements and the civilian population of northern Israel; Jordan's use of the West Bank as a launching point for its failed attack on Israel, as well as the steady stream of war-like invective aimed at Israel by an Arab world that was still in a state of war with Israel since 1948. To characterize Israel as the «aggressor» in this context is erroneous at best, and mendacious at worst.

I could continue with this line of reasoning for quite a while. But for the sake of brevity and clarity, and in order to make my point, I won't. Any discourse on the problems in the Middle East must fully

address all issues. Simply to cast Israel as the villain serves no purpose. Anyone who thinks that the peace conference and the root of all the problems between Israel and the Arab world is the desire to right the wrongs suffered by the Palestinians is incredibly naive and ill-informed. I need only point out several historical facts. The mistreatment of Palestinian refugees by Arab countries, the massacre of 3,000 Palestinians in Jordan by King Hussein in the notorious «Black September» incident, as well as the total lack of response in the Arab world to Kuwaiti retaliations against Palestinian residents of Kuwait in the aftermath of the Gulf War. All are incidents symptomatic of a region that has little regard for any conception of human rights.

The Palestinian issue has always been used cynically by Arab leaders to further their own personal and national agendas at the expense of legitimate Palestinians concerns. Until (as in the 1979 peace treaty with Egypt) Israel can be convinced that any territorial concessions it makes are done in the context of a region motivated by the sincere desire to live in peace and harmony, no solutions will be found to the problems and the fighting that have plagued all residents of the Middle East for the last 43 years. It is my fondest hope that such solutions and such goodwill will happen in my and Alain Olivier's lifetimes.

**Good luck in
your exams...**

**Bonne chance
aux examens...**

TO JEST OR NOT TO JEST?

by Nick Katerinakis BCL II

I came to law school with the assumption that, given the faculties stringent criteria, all of my fellow students would be able to tell the difference between satire and sarcasm on the one hand and serious political commentary on the other. After having read Mr. Soulard's November 11th Quid Novi submission entitled "Partir ou rester?" it is now apparent to me that this is not the case. Perhaps my colleague was too busy participating in Quebec's famed student strike to learn this obvious distinction before entering the faculty. I, on the other hand, was getting the best education money (or rather \$500 tuition) could buy.

In my two years as a student at the faculty I have grown concerned with the preponderance of serious or politically oriented Quid contributions. I have tried on several occasions to provide my personal insights on everyday topics within a humorous framework. I have never written with malice nor have I ever expected anyone to share my views. If I have inadvertently offended anyone's culture

or background I offer my deepest and most sincere apologies. However, some of my confrère's contentions are clearly misguided.

Mr. Soulard would have you believe that I have attempted to belittle my beloved province's highbrow culture. While I do not dispute the paramountcy of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, I would argue that it is largely foreign in its composition. The MSO is hardly indicative of the cultural identity of your everyday Montrealer. In the same vein, «Les Misérables» and the «Phantom of the Opera» are about as Québécois as the Renault 5 or the New Québécoise Pizza at Pizza Hut. If you don't believe me just ask the 15,000 or so «neophytes» who religiously inhabit the Olympic Stadium to watch the Expos play (or are they just there to boo the National Anthem?). In addition, Mr. Soulard has totally distorted my perspective by confusing my ancestry. The closest that anyone in my family has ever gotten to the «Beaver Club» is cutting the grass outside of it or maybe washing the dishes on the inside.

Like many before him, I believe my colleague was only reading to confirm his ideologies and convictions. History has shown this to be a very dangerous practice..

Like many within our faculty, I too have many strong opinions on Quebec's political past, present and future. I make no apologies for my political beliefs. However, every good political discussion requires an adequate forum and a challenging opponent. The Quid Novi and my confrère fail to provide either of these two important elements.

Despite my love of life in Quebec, my decision to stay in the province does not look very promising. While I love the Expos' new uniform I have not yet recovered from the theft of my beloved red Mustang, yet another emerging characteristic of the «Belle Province». (It's O.K. I probably would have lost it in a pothole anyway!). Does anyone in this province still have a sense of humour?

Notre commission

Suite de la p.1

nombre de cours donné en français et le nombre de cours donné en anglais sur la base de considérations politique et sociales. C'est un exercice difficile que de considérer la langue d'enseignement en marge de la triste réalité politique québécoise et canadienne, mais je crois que c'est la seule façon d'en arriver à une solution raisonnable et acceptable au plus grand nombre. Car les conditions d'enseignement détaignent sur les relations qu'entretiennent les étudiants entre eux dans leurs rapports de tous les jours et c'est la qualité de ces rapports qui déterminent en bonne partie la qualité de la vie universitaire.

La politique doit faire place aux considérations pratiques. Une personne qui peut comprendre, lire et écrire l'anglais aussi bien que le français possède une longueur d'avance sur une autre qui ne peut pas le faire ou ne peut le faire qu'approximativement. Je considère ceci comme un fait irréfutable, même si les deux langues ainsi utilisées ne sont ni le français, ni l'anglais, mais l'espagnol, le portugais, le grec. l'allemand, le cantonnais, le russe ou toutes autres langues. Les étudiants qui vivront dans ces deux langues ne pourront qu'être ravis de pouvoir s'en servir

dans leur vie professionnelle. Et les étudiants qui sont persuadés de ne jamais plus entendre une de ces deux langues après leur vie à la faculté de droit ne pourront pas blâmer une institution qui tente d'en enseigner plus que l'on ne lui en demande.

Joyeuses Fetes !!

Happy Holidays !!

CAN WE TALK?

Recent events within the Faculty have sparked lively and sometimes hostile debate. It is clearly time for more positive debate and increased dialogue. To ensure that this public discussion will not be short-lived, this article is a response to the poster campaign of last Thursday and will attempt to address a number of related issues. (For those of you who did not see the posters, an example copy is reproduced for you.)

The message quoted in these posters is a concrete example of a serious and persuasive problem within the Faculty and our profession as a whole - relations between men and women. Unfortunately, other examples of the same problem are not hard to find. One need only look to the representation of women among professors and in the administration, the traditionally low male attendance at lectures addressing gender issues and the failure of the Faculty, especially when compared to other law schools, to adequately raise and address in its curriculum the relationship between gender and law.

As persons who in the future will influence the development of the law and social policy, we must develop the ability to discuss difficult issues in an open forum and to work together in finding solutions to problems faced. The impact we will have is not simply limited to our professional lives. We also share a responsibility of mutual respect and consideration towards those we interact within our mutual lives.

For some, the poster campaign repre-

sented a valuable vehicle for drawing our attention to these issues that have remained unspoken for far too long. However, others objected to the method used to attain these goals.

Une des inquiétudes est que le fait d'avoir posé ces posters a détruit l'harmonie et la bonne entente qui régnaient entre les étudiant(e)s jusqu'alors. Mais de quelle bonne entente et harmonie s'agit-il? Peut-on parler de véritable bonne entente et harmonie entre nous quand, en fait, il y a un malaise insidieux qui affecte les rapports hommes-femmes?

Others have voiced their concern that it was, in effect, a personal attack against certain individuals. It will be recalled that all references to the individuals involved and to the context within which the note was written were deleted or blacked out. Most people in the Faculty still do not and should not know, or care, about the identity of these individuals. Regardless of the intentions behind the campaign, it nonetheless has provided us with an opportunity to seriously address and consider these issues publicly. We should not reject this opportunity by dismissing the posters as a lynching exercise or political grandstanding.

Another objection raised is that the document was intended for private use and not for public display. But whether for public use or private use, the quote shows that there is a problem. It is evident that people are feeling threatened by what they perceive to be an unjustified insistence on the importance of gender-neutral language and political correctness.

These feeling and perceptions ARE legitimate and deserve proper recognition. However, this will only be achieved when such concerns are voiced and addressed in a public forum in which we all participate.

Lastly, some have said that the statement was «taken out of context» and that it was merely a «joke». However, who would laugh if the quote read «non-Jewish» or «all white» instead of «all-male»?

Ça n'est pas en niant l'existence d'un problème que l'on peut créer des rapports fondés sur le respect mutuel. Un malaise non traité est comme une gangrène dans les rapports entre les personnes, et la résolution de ce problème passe par un dialogue ouvert et continu.

We hope that this debate will transform into dialogue as it is clear that there is common ground to be found. We, too, consider ourselves «pioneers» in these «troubling times».

BCL II: Danièle Mackinnon, Claudia Fuchs, Hélène Piquet, Nancy Girard, Jennifer Woollcombe, Chantal Chevalier, Ari Slatkoff

LLB II: Rosemarie Graf, Myriam Brulot, Ron Halossière, Margi Swain, Bediako Buahene, Sarah Wilson, Maaïke de Bie, Nancy Morris, Lynn Prior, Tom Likambale, Jodi Whyte, Jan Bongers, Tara Shewchuk, Kevin McNeill, Marcia Greene, Alan McConnell

Nat. III/IV: Jonathan Burnham, Jaye Ellis.

Greetings my NTC brethren (And all of those who have obtained this NTC in a more dubious manner). Three cheers for our leader and messiah [redacted] who, in these troubling times of political correctness and a gender neutral educational environment, has had the insight to steer us clear of trouble. We are probably the first all male NTC at the McGill Law School in over thirty years. Thanks to [redacted] we can tell our children and even our grandchildren that we were truly part of something special; pioneers in every sense of the word.